

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: INTERSTATE FAST FERRY :
2020 RATE FILING : **DOCKET NO. 5034**

**COMMISSION’S FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS
DIRECTED TO INTERSTATE**

Issued June 2, 2020

Please provide response by no later than June 16, 2020

1. Why is the Company proposing to eliminate frequent user booklets and volume discounts?

RESPONSE:

Interstate Navigation is making this proposal due to current issues of logistics with these types of tickets. Interstate hopes to be able restore the frequent user booklets and volume discounts when, and if, passenger capacity is no longer constrained by the Covid-19 limited capacity guidelines.

The issue of logistics is that with these types of tickets, passengers just show up at the dock for a given fast ferry departure time without any online reservation or prior notice to Interstate. In the past, during heavy ridership periods, these passengers might have to wait for the next ferry departure if tickets were sold out from the ticket window and online sales reservations. Due to the current guidelines limiting passenger capacity, Interstate expects that most fast ferry runs will be sold out through online reservations alone, and people who showed up at the dock holding frequent user/discounted tickets would be upset because they might not be able to board the fast ferry. We are trying to avoid that situation by discontinuing the use of those types of tickets.

Witness responsible: David G. Bebyn, CPA

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2. Mr. Bebyn explains that the reason for increasing current rates is due to reduced passenger capacity caused by the current Covid-19 Pandemic. When, and if, passenger capacity is no longer constrained by Covid-19 conditions, does the Company expect to revise rates again?

RESPONSE:

Interstate hopes to be able to reduce the proposed increased fast ferry rates when, and if, passenger capacity is no longer constrained by Covid-19 limited capacity guidelines.

Witness responsible: David G. Bebyn, CPA